

## **Emergency Support Function -11 – Agriculture and Natural Resources**

### **ESF Coordinator:**

Department of Agriculture

### **Primary Agencies, for:**

#### **Provision of Nutrition Assistance by the Food and Nutrition Service**

Department of Social and Health Services

#### **Animal and Plant Disease and Pest Response**

Department of Agriculture

Department of Health

Department of Fish and Wildlife

#### **Assurance of the Safety and Security of the Commercial Food Supply**

Department of Agriculture

Department of Health

#### **Protection of Natural, Cultural, and Historic (NCH) Resources**

Department of Ecology

Department of Natural Resources

Department of Fish and Wildlife

Department of Parks and Recreation

General Administration

### **Support Agencies:**

Department of Agriculture

Department of Community Trade and Economic Development

Military Department

Department of Ecology

Department of Social and Health Services

Department of Homeland Security

Attorney General's Office

Department of Labor and Industries

Department of Transportation

General Administration

American Red Cross

## **Introduction**

### **Purpose**

Emergency Support Function (ESF) -11 – Agriculture and Natural Resources supports State, local, and tribal authorities to address: (1) provision of nutrition assistance; (2) control and eradication of an outbreak of a highly contagious or economically devastating animal/zoonotic disease, highly infective exotic plant disease, or economically devastating plant pest infestation; (3) assurance of food safety and food security (under Department of Agriculture (WSDA) jurisdictions and authorities), and (4) protection of natural and cultural resources and historic properties (NCH) resources prior to, during, and/or after an Incident of National Significance.

### **Scope**

ESF-11 includes four primary functions:

<p><b>Animal and Plant Disease and Pest Response Policies</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> When addressing animal diseases, all animal depopulation activities are conducted as humanely as possible while stopping pathogen spread and limiting the number of animals that must be euthanized. Disposal methods for infected or potentially infected carcasses and plant host material are chosen for their effectiveness in stopping pathogen spread and for their minimal impact on the environment.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> The Director of the Department of Agriculture also may request that an Emergency be proclaimed by the Governor for affected counties. Director of the Department of Agriculture will request that the US Secretary of Agriculture declare an Extraordinary Emergency to pay compensation and to allow for the use of Federal authorities to take action within a State.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Food Safety and Security Policies</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> The Food Safety, Animal Health, and Consumer Services Division, Washington Department of Agriculture and Washington Department of Health will be notified immediately by the local public health agency, the State Warning and Notification Center, or any other means.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> The Food Safety Program Manager will coordinate directly with the department of Health. The two primary agencies will notify the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) and the State Emergency Operations Center (EOC)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is activated upon notification of the occurrence of a potential or actual Incident of National Significance by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) that a Federal response is warranted.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Actions undertaken are guided by and coordinated by State, and local food safety officials, emergency preparedness and response officials, and homeland security officials and existing WSDA and WDOH internal policies and procedures.</li> </ul>
<p><b>NCH Resources Protection Policies</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> The Department of the Natural Resources (DNR) is the initial primary agency for NCH resources. The primary agency for each emergency is determined jointly by DNR, and the State Emergency Operations Center, and may change over the life of the incident.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Actions undertaken under ESF-11 to protect, conserve, rehabilitate, recover, and restore NCH resources are guided by the existing internal policies and procedures of the primary agency for each incident.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> The primary agency for each incident coordinates with appropriate ESFs and other annexes, including the coordinating agency for the Worker Safety and Health Support Annex, to ensure appropriate use of volunteers and their health and safety and to ensure appropriate measures are in place to protect the health and safety of all workers.</li> </ul>

	<p>transportation for food supplies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Authorize disaster food stamps</li> </ul>	<p>exotic plant disease, or plant pest infestation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate veterinary and wildlife services in affected areas.</li> <li>• In response to a bio-hazardous event, the decontamination and/or destruction of animals and plants as well as associated facilities (e.g., barns, processing equipment, soil, and feeding and growing areas) may be required</li> <li>• Coordinate with ESF #8 on animal/ veterinary/ wildlife issues in disease and natural disaster issues.</li> </ul>	<p>surveillance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate recall and tracing of adulterated products.</li> <li>• Coordinate disposal of contaminated food products.</li> <li>• Provide inspectors and laboratory services to affected areas</li> </ul>	<p>protection measures and strategies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist in emergency compliance with relevant Federal and State environmental laws during emergency response activities, such as emergency permits/consultation for natural resources use or consumption.</li> <li>• Manage, monitor, and assist in or conduct response and recovery actions to minimize damage to NCH resources.</li> <li>• Coordinate with ESF #3 and #10 on the removal of debris affecting NCH resources.</li> <li>• Coordinate with ESF #3 to manage, monitor, or provide technical assistance on emergency stabilization (and during recovery, restoration) of shorelines, riparian buffer zones, and hillsides to protect NCH resources.</li> <li>• Provide Incident Management Teams to assist in NCH resource response and recovery actions.</li> </ul>
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- ☐ In the event of an outbreak of a highly infective exotic plant disease or an economically devastating plant pest infestation:
  - The State Plant Health Regulatory Official serves as the State's principal point of contact with the Federal Government.
  - The State activates its State, regional, or local emergency operations centers (EOCs), as needed, as the State's base of operations for interfacing with local governments, State agencies, and the private sector.
  - The State Plant Health Director and the State Plant Regulatory Official establish a Joint Operations Center, which serves as the focal point for coordinating the disease or pest management decision making process.
  - The State Plant Response Plan is Appendix C of this Emergency Support Function. This plan will be used to response to plant and pest infestations of all types. **(To be published)**
- ☐ For food supply safety and security, the local or county government may activate its EOC to provide a local base of operations according to internal policies and procedures. A representative of a District Office(s) serves as the Senior USDA Federal Official of the JFO Coordination Group in the affected area.
  - The State Food Safety Response Plan is Appendix D of this Emergency Support Function. This plan will be used to response to food safety and security incidents of all types. **(To be published)**
- ☐ In assisting with disease response, the local or county government activates its EOC to provide a local base of operations. In some States, a county emergency declaration may be needed to initiate county response activities.
- ☐ ☐ For assistance in protection of NCH resources, the DNR Coordinator or designee, in conjunction with the Disaster Manager at the State EOC are the initial points of contact within the State EOC and represents ESF-11 in dealing with the Federal Coordinating Officer or Federal Resources Coordinator.
  - The State NCH Response Plan is Appendix E of this Emergency Support Function. This plan will be used to response to NCH incidents of all types. **(To be published)**

Regardless of the nature of the disease or pest emergency, the State establishes a Joint Information Center (JIC) that functions as the principal source of information about the disease outbreak or pest infestation response in the State. The State JIC coordinates closely with Federal officials to ensure consistency in the information released to the communications media and the public.

	<p>subsequent criminal investigation jointly with other appropriate Federal law enforcement agencies. If the outbreak is determined to be a criminal but not a terrorist act, the USDA OIG assumes primary Federal responsibility for a law enforcement response.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If a terrorist act is suspected in connection with an outbreak, the USDA OIG notifies the Weapons of Mass Destruction Unit of the Department of Justice/Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). The USDA OIG, other appropriate Federal law enforcement agencies, and the FBI conduct a joint criminal investigation.</li> <li>• The State Veterinarian in conjunction with APHIS provides for the inspection, fumigation, disinfection, sanitation, pest extermination, and destruction of animals or articles found to be so infected or contaminated as to be sources of dangerous infection to human beings and takes such other measures as necessary</li> </ul>
<b>Food Supply Safety and Security (WSDA/WDOH)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In conjunction with USDA and FDA, assesses the operating status of inspected meat, poultry, and egg product processing, distribution, import, and retail facilities in the affected area.</li> <li>• In conjunction with USDA and FDA, evaluates the adequacy of available inspectors, program investigators, and laboratory services relative to the emergency on a geographical basis.</li> </ul>
<b>NCH Resources Protection (DNR/WDOE/WDFW/WDPR/GA)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Determines the critical needs and resources available for NCH resources protection, in consultation with State, local, tribal, and private entities. Based on this determination, DNR, WDOE, WDFW, WDPR, and GA consult to determine which agency serves as the primary agency for the incident.</li> <li>• Coordinates provision of necessary assistance within the affected area.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engages in surveillance of food safety/security-related illness, injury, and other consumer complaints.</li> <li>• Coordinates with State, local, and voluntary organizations to determine the extent to which FSIS resources are needed and can be provided.</li> <li>• Conducts product tracing to determine the source, destination, and disposition of adulterated and/or contaminated products.</li> <li>• Controls all identified FSIS-inspected products at inspected establishments that are suspected or found to be adulterated through product recall, seizure, and detention and/or closures of regulated establishments.</li> </ul>
<b>NCH Resources Protection (DNR/WDOE/WDFW/WDPR/GA)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides scientific/technical advice, information, and assistance to help prevent or minimize injury to and to preserve, protect, conserve, stabilize, rehabilitate, or restore NCH resources.</li> <li>• Establishes logistical links with organizations involved in long-term NCH resources protection, preservation, conservation, rehabilitation, recovery, stabilization, and restoration.</li> </ul>

## Responsibilities

**Coordinating Agency:** Department of Agriculture in conjunction with primary agency

Agency	Functions
<b>DSHS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinates with State, local, and tribal officials to determine the nutrition needs of the population in the affected areas based on the following categories: acutely deficient, moderately deficient, self-sufficient, and surplus supplies.</li> <li>• Request emergency issuance of food stamp benefits to qualifying households within the affected area.</li> <li>• Request emergency issuance of emergency food supplies available to households for take-home consumption in lieu of providing food stamp benefits for qualifying households.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The operations of facilities that cannot produce unadulterated products are suspended, and other facilities continue to undergo regular or enhanced inspection and verification, including laboratory monitoring of food samples.</li> <li>• Works with Federal, State, and local authorities as well as industry to conduct tracing, recall, and control of adulterated products. This includes proper disposal of contaminated products in order to protect public health and the environment in the affected area.</li> <li>• Provides Geographic Information Systems mapping capability for the meat, poultry, and egg product facilities it regulates to assist State and local authorities to establish food control zones to protect the public health.</li> <li>• Provides seafood inspection capabilities to assess safety, wholesomeness, proper labeling, and quality of fish and fishery products through process and product verifications, product evaluations and certifications, and laboratory analysis</li> </ul>
<b>NCH Resources Protection Initial Primary Agency: WDNR/WDOE/WDFW</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides scientific/technical advice, information, and assistance to help prevent or minimize injury to and to restore or stabilize NCH resources. Areas covered include terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems; biological resources, including fish and wildlife, threatened and endangered species, and migratory birds; historic and prehistoric resources; mapping and geospatial data; geology; hydrology, including real-time water flow data; earthquakes and other natural hazards; on- and offshore minerals; energy; and coal mining.</li> <li>• Makes available the response resources of DNR, such as incident management teams, communications equipment, transportation resources, temporary housing and feeding resources, etc., in cooperation with the State EOC and to the extent possible.</li> <li>• Provides technical assistance in contract management, contracting, procurement, construction inspection, and NCH resources assessments and restoration (natural resources), preservation, protection, and stabilization.</li> <li>• Provides technical and financial assistance to landowners and communities as appropriate to help assess the restoration needs for important fish and wildlife habitat and population restoration.</li> </ul>
<b>NCH Resources Protection Primary Agency: WDNR/WDOE/WDFW</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides technical advice, information, and assistance to help prevent or minimize injury to and to restore or stabilize NCH resources. Areas covered include: plant materials propagation; soil surveys; drought preparedness and mitigation; critical habitat, including environmentally sensitive and culturally significant areas; watershed survey, planning,</li> </ul>